



**A MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE AND
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON
TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00pm
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER**

Present

Cllr V Blake (Mayor), Cllr M Bowe (Deputy Mayor) and Cllr G Forman.

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was a presentation from Cllr M Cargill regarding the proposal to redevelop the squash courts at the Greig Hall to create a community space to be used for the Alcester Community Shed. Cllr Cargill answered questions regarding the proposal. It was noted that it would be a phased development as funds became available. The Committee recommended that the project would need a project plan detailing proposed costings, funding and ongoing running costs. Cllr Cargill will put a motion to Full Council to set up a working group to develop this project plan.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr K Cargill and Cllr E Randle.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting had been signed at Full Council.

4. Matters arising (not otherwise dealt with on the Agenda)

None

5. Staffing Issues

- a. The Town Clerk reported that the staff employed to run The Crafty Lunch Club had now been paid for their final month and would leave employment with ATC on 30th September. The Town Clerk reported that she had had a very productive meeting with them and they seem well prepared to run the Club from October.
- b. The Town Clerk had attended the SLCC Virtual Finance Seminar on 13th September.
- c. Mike Bowe had attended a WALC training course on Exclusive Rights of Burial.
- d. Manual Handling training had been completed by Paul Hands, Chris Hands and Laura Clarke.
- e. First aid training has been booked for 5 volunteers from the Repair Café – the cost of this is being met from donations received by the Repair Café.

6. Finance Issues

- a. The monthly management accounts which had been circulated in advance were approved. The Town Clerk answered questions about certain items in the accounts.
- b. The Town Clerk reported that the second instalment of the precept had been received. The Town Clerk had transferred £80,000 into the Public Sector Deposit Fund.
- c. The Town Clerk reported that the Financial Contribution Agreement from SDC to secure the payment of s106 funds for public open space arising from the southern part of the Bloor Homes Development had been completed and she expected payment shortly.
- d. The SDC Cabinet agenda has been published including reference to the two grant applications from ATC for the Alcester Community Shed and a Community Safety project for High Street events.
- e. Invoices paid this month include the one for the coaches for the Health and Wellbeing Partnership trip to Weston super Mare (£1340.00) – this cost was entirely covered by donations received.
- f. M & J Blast Cleaning had been paid £900 to remove the old play equipment at Bleachfield Street in readiness for the new equipment to be installed.
- g. The Town Clerk reported that the Mayor had raised £930.60 for his charities at the recent Italian night.

7. Squash Courts at the Greig Hall

It was noted that Cllr Cargill would be proposing a motion on this subject at Full Council.

8. Land at Stratford Road

The Town Clerk reported that an enquiry had been received from an individual who was interested in purchasing the area of hardstanding on Stratford Road next to Centenary Field for a self-build property. Councillors agreed that in accordance with the Disposal of Land and Property policy this site was not for sale. The Town Clerk will advise them accordingly.

9. Local Council Award Scheme

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had now registered with NALC in respect of the Quality Gold award.

She had circulated two draft statements in advance of the meeting which were approved.

10. Propositions to Full Council

There were no propositions from the Committee.

It was noted that Cllr M Cargill would be proposing a motion about the squash courts.

The Town Clerk advised that there were two consultations from Stratford District Council to consider at the meeting.

The meeting was then closed by the Mayor.